

TEXTBOOK OF OPHTHALMOLOGY—Seventh Edition
—Francis Heed Adler, M.D., Emeritus Professor of Ophthalmology, University of Pennsylvania Medical School; Consulting Surgeon, Wills Eye, Philadelphia General, and Children's Hospitals of Philadelphia. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, Pa., 1962. 560 pages, Illustrated with 288 figures and 26 color plates, \$9.00.

This is the 7th edition of the book originally written by Sanford Gifford, first published in 1938. It was written primarily as a textbook on ophthalmology for the medical student and general practitioner. The book eliminated all the rare conditions and dealt with the "run-of-the-mill" conditions that would be of interest to the medical student and to the general practitioner.

Upon Gifford's death, Adler took over the revision of the book and has improved it with each new edition. As stated in the preface, Adler has consistently given space only to those features of ophthalmology that are of medical and neurological interest.

The book is divided into 24 chapters. The first few chapters deal with the various methods of examining the eye and its functions. This is followed by chapters on the diseases of the various structures of the eye. The chapters near the end of the book discuss the ocular disorders due to diseases of the central nervous system; the ocular manifestation of general diseases and the therapeutic agents used in ophthalmology.

The final chapter, which is on ocular injuries, is a very convenient, concise account of the first aid treatment of eye injuries.

The most unusual new feature of the book is the first chapter on symptomatology of eye diseases. This is divided into two parts, the first discussing the ocular visual symptoms, the second part dealing with non-visual symptoms. After each symptom, in parentheses, is a reference to some portion of the book. For example, under sudden loss of vision of one eye are listed a number of causes. One of these is central retinal vein obstruction, and at the end of this statement is a page reference to a section of the book dealing with this subject.

The book has become a classic for the medical student and the general practitioner. It is also recommended as a good introduction to the subject of ophthalmology for the first-year resident in ophthalmology. To the practicing ophthalmologist, it is a handy, condensed, concise reference book.

The index is adequate. The format is excellent, the paper is of good quality and the print easily readable. The line drawings, reproduced photographs and color reproductions are outstanding. The binding is good and should withstand a good deal of use.

All in all, it is an excellent book.

FREDERICK C. CORDES, M.D.

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THE MOLD OF MURDER—A Psychiatric Study of Homicide—Walter Bromberg, M.D., formerly Director, Psychiatric Clinic, Court of General Sessions, New York, N. Y., and Training Consultant, Department of Mental Hygiene, State of California. Grune & Stratton, Inc., 381 Park Avenue South, New York 16, N. Y., 1961. 230 pages, \$4.75.

Television's fare, current paper-backs, and the continuing popularity of Edgar Allen Poe attest to man's perennial interest in and fascination with violent crime. In this new book Dr. Bromberg narrows the field of his earlier *Crime and the Mind*, published in 1948, to present an exploration of murder, focusing primarily on the murderer and the society in which he develops. Turning his attention first to the "normal" murderer, the author then discusses among others, the female murderer, the psychopathic murderer, the psychotic killer, the adolescent murderer, the emotionally

immature, the role of alcohol, the sexual psychopath. Some medico-legal problems are explored. Throughout, the author emphasizes the dynamic, motivated significance of the murder act to the individual murderer. Murder occurs when "the inhibiting, defensive or sublimating mechanisms of the ego are insufficient to curb direct expression of aggressive impulses." A second main theme of this book is the intimate role of society in the murder phenomenon. The author pointedly reduces the gap between the average man and the murderer. "The criminal acts out those impulses and fantasies which the law-abiding citizen represses and abhors . . . society loves its crime but hates its criminals." There is even a possible analogy here, which the author does not draw, between Szurek and Johnson's adolescent delinquents who are acting out the unconscious wishes of the parents, and the murderer's relation to society. In his discussion on prevention of murder, the author presents an unusual proposal that television be used in a long-term "psychodrama by television" mass educational program. The author has made liberal use of case histories which are interestingly presented. This is not a textbook, but an absorbing, readable, often penetrating exploration of an important problem. The author's presentation tends to develop in his reader a certain attitude and approach to the problem of homicide which breaks down traditional individual and societal mechanisms of isolation and reaction formation. Though quite suitable for the intelligent layman, the book is of especial interest to those who are in more direct contact with the problem of murder: judges, lawyers, probation and parole offices, social workers, etc. A bibliography and index are included.

RONALD S. MINTZ, M.D.

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PROGRESS IN RADIATION THERAPY—Volume II—Edited by Franz Buschke, M.D., Professor of Radiology, University of California School of Medicine, San Francisco (With 17 contributors). Grune & Stratton, Inc., 381 Park Avenue South, New York 16, N. Y., 1962. 266 pages, \$12.50.

Like its predecessor, this small monograph consists of a series of articles dealing with the various phases of clinical radiotherapy and allied topics.

The first two chapters deal with so-called radiation nephritis. The value of these would be enhanced were an attempt made to correlate more clearly the presumed radiation changes with the precise estimated kidney dose (expressed in roentgens, time and area). The author, Luxton, does emphasize "in the diagnosis of radiation nephritis, it is important to know the state of the kidneys before radiotherapy." Since this information is often lacking, many of the statements are post hoc in nature.

There is an excellent chapter on tolerance of cartilage and bone in clinical radiation therapy by R. G. Parker. This clinical therapist notes that in a study of 110 epitheliomata of the skin of the nose, in which two-thirds of the cases had involvement over the tip of the nose or the ala, and who were treated over ten years ago with conventional low voltage x-ray therapy (120 kv), or orthovoltage (200 kv) to doses up to 4600 r skin, in 5 days, there had only been a single instance of cartilage necrosis. This involved the anterior nasal septum, was then associated with persistent tumor and has subsequently been cured by resection. This reviewer agrees that with competent orthovoltage radiotherapy the incidence of cartilage insult in the treatment of most skin cancers is nominal. In this same section, the author points out that "supervoltage" irradiation has not been established as reducing the incidence of bone necrosis.

There is a chapter on periodic fractionation of treatment by Botstein which might be described as more enthusiastic